

COMMENTS

The enclosed is responsive to the Examiner's Final Office Action mailed on October 26, 2004 and is being filed pursuant to a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) as provided under 37 CFR 1.114. At the time the Examiner mailed the Office Action claims 1, 7, 9, 10, 21, 23, 24, 26 and 27 were pending. By way of the present response the Applicants have: 1) added no claims; 2) amended claim 1, 21, 24 and 27; and 3) cancelled no claims. As such, claims 1, 7, 9, 10, 21, 23, 24, 26 and 27 are now pending. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and the allowance of all claims.

Claim Rejections

35 U.S.C. 102(e) Rejections

Amended independent claim 21 sets forth:

21. A circuit, comprising:
a register;
a data shifting circuit having an input coupled to an output of the register;
an exclusive OR circuit having a first input coupled to an output of the data shifting circuit;
a multi-element array comprising of at least a shift value and a transform, said array coupled to a second input of the exclusive OR circuit to transfer transform data to the exclusive OR circuit, and further coupled to the data shifting circuit to transfer data shift information to the data shifting circuit; and
a prediction logic circuit coupled to an output of the exclusive OR circuit.
(Emphasis Added)

As amended, claim 21 contains a multi-element array comprising of at least a shift value and a transform. The Examiner states that, "Talcott has in fact

taught that an array is transferring data shift information to a data shifting circuit as claimed in claim 21. The program counter is an array of size one.” (page 3, paragraph 9 of the office action mailed 10/26/04) This language shows that U.S. Patent No. 6,272,623 (Hereinafter “Talcott”) discloses a single element array. A single element array is not the same as a multi-element array comprising of at least a shift value and a transform. Therefore Talcott fails to disclose each and every element of claim 21. Hence, Talcott does not anticipate claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Claim 23 depends on and includes the limitations of claim 21. Therefore, Talcott also fails to anticipate claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Amended independent claim 24 contains substantially the same limitations as claim 21 and is not anticipated by Talcott for the same reasons as mentioned above. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 24 and all its dependent claims are not anticipated by Talcott, and should be allowed as presented.

35 U.S.C. 102(b) Rejections

Amended claim 1 sets forth:

1. A method, comprising:
 - providing at least three elements, including a first element and a last element, each element having an associated parameter;
 - providing a first identifier for the first element;
 - for a first sequential execution of the at least three elements, performing a first operation on the first identifier and at least one of the parameters to produce a transform;
 - saving the transform;
 - for a second sequential execution of the elements, performing a second operation on the transform to produce a last identifier associated with the last element;
 - using the last identifier to access a location in a multi-element prediction array comprising of at least a shift value and a transform; and

using a content of said location to predict a decision status of the last element.
(Emphasis Added)

As amended, claim 1 contains a multi-element prediction array comprising of at least a shift value and a transform. U.S. Patent No. 5,553,253 (Hereinafter "Pan") fails to disclose a multi-element prediction array comprising of at least a shift value and a transform. Therefore Pan fails to disclose each and every element of claim 1. Hence, Pan does not anticipate claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Claims 7, 9 and 10 depend on and include the limitations of claim 1. Therefore, Pan also fails to anticipate claims 7, 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Amended independent claim 27 contains substantially the same limitations as claim 1 and is not anticipated by Pan for the same reasons as mentioned above. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 27 is not anticipated by Pan, and should be allowed as presented.

As amended claim 1 and 27 both contain the limitation of "a multi-element prediction array comprising of at least a shift value and a transform." Figures 1-3 of the specification (e.g. Prior Art) do not disclose this limitation. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 7, 9, 10 and 27 are not anticipated by its own specification, and should be allowed as presented.

CONCLUSION

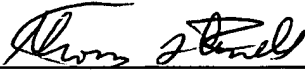
For the reasons provided above, applicant respectfully submits that the current set of claims are allowable. If the Examiner believes an additional telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Michael J. Mallie at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 2-28-05



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